

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

NEWS, FACTS, AND GOSSIP.

The Blair Bill—The Mexican Pension Bill—The Post-Office Appropriation Bill—Cabinet Speculations—Briefs.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, January 27.—I asked Mr. Williams, of Kentucky, last night whether he had any chance of the Blair education bill. He replied, "There is a majority for it, and if the majority takes the bit in its mouth it will pass. The trouble evidently is that the rules of the House at a short session will enable a minority to defeat any measure, however meritorious." There has been an objection raised that this bill, which embraces an appropriation, ought not to have originated in the Senate. The remarks of Mr. Hunter in the Senate yesterday in support of the position that the Senate had the right to originate this bill. He said: "We exercise the power in almost every little pension case and in thousands of bills in which we appropriate money. The restriction in the Constitution has been decided in this body only to apply to those bills which provide for raising revenue—taxing-bills, &c." By the way, whenever Mr. Hunter is quoted by members of either body of Congress, it is as the eminent senator from Virginia. This is the term applied to him by Senator Edmunds, of Vermont, when discussing the silver question some sessions ago, and other congressmen without regard to party have adopted it. It is seldom that a member of either house after a long term of service leaves such a record behind him.

THE MEXICAN PENSION BILL.

Citizens of Wisconsin, Illinois, New York, Ohio, Indiana, and Iowa are petitioning Congress to pass the Mexican pension bill as passed by the House and amended by the Senate. There are no petitions from the South for it in its present shape, because the bill as it passed the House was what southern Mexican veterans wanted, and what they deserved for their services in a war that added a territory to our domain equal to an ordinary empire. I have already stated that the amendments were offered with a view of defeating the bill.

THE MASSACHUSETTS SENATORSHIP.

Senator Dawes has been in both houses of Congress for a good many years, and a good deal of interest is manifested by Republicans in regard to his return to the Senate. The feeling among the best-informed Massachusetts people here is that Governor Robinson will leave him. Governor Robinson was a leading representative of Massachusetts in the last Congress. The election will not take place for a year yet, and it is hard to tell what combination may be formed. The hard-core blows Mr. Dawes has received during his senatorial career were from Mr. Blaine, when he presented a statue of William King, the first Governor of his State, to the United States Government.

THE POST-OFFICE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The full committee of the House Committee to-day. It contains important provisions, as it provides that letters weighing an ounce shall be carried for two cents, and reduces the postage on newspapers sent to subscribers to one cent. It also permits postmasters to rent post-office buildings where they are needed for five years, instead of one, as now required by law. This is in the interest of economy. The Appropriations Committee is rapidly completing the general appropriation bills, and as they have the right of way it will be difficult for other bills to get a hearing.

CABINET SPECULATIONS TO-DAY.

The New Hampshire people here who call the Hon. Frank Jones will go in the Cabinet; but the trouble is that New England did not give any support to Mr. Cleveland. I asked one of the best-informed Democratic politicians to-day to give me his candid opinion as to Mr. Cleveland's Cabinet. He said, "I am sure that Cleveland and his friends are sure of it." "Who else?" I asked. "Have the best chance?" He replied, "Why, McDonald for Secretary of War, and Stockton for Secretary of the Navy." "Who will be Postmaster-General?" I asked. He replied, "Barbour, of Virginia, if he is properly supported."

THE VIRGINIA COUPON CASE.

The Attorney-General to-day moved in the Supreme Court to advance, with a view to an early decision as practicable, all the Virginia coupon cases, upon the ground that under the decision of the United States Circuit Court the Commonwealth is practically restrained from collecting its revenue.

THE SENATE ON TREATIES.

The Senate has paid most of its attention to the treaties—to wit: the Nicaraguan, the Spanish, and Mexican treaties. It is hard to ascertain what will be done in the executive session of this body, but those who have the best sources of information are of the opinion that the Spanish and Mexican treaties cannot get through Congress. The Nicaraguan treaty has a better show, however, to pass.

THE INAUGURATION PREPARATIONS.

A member of the Inauguration Committee informed me that the preparations are almost complete and the funds are ample. This is a most important item. One firm has subscribed five thousand dollars. I have never known citizens so willing to rent their best rooms on such an occasion. What is more, their charges, if properly regulated, will not be extravagant.

THE HALLETT-KILBOURNE CASE.

EX-SERGEANT-AT-ARMS Thompson, of the House, was before the Judiciary Committee of the House to-day, and wanted it to allow him \$5,000 for expenses in the Hallett-Kilbourne case, but this was refused. It was agreed, however, that \$3,000 should be paid him. The indications are that nothing will be done in regard to this matter this session. It will be remembered that Mr. Kilbourne was imprisoned by order of the House, and that Mr. Thompson was his jailer.

THE RICHMOND POSTMASTERSHIP.

I have taken further efforts to ascertain who will be selected as successor of Dr. Gilmer as postmaster for his unexpired term, and I find that Republicans say Mr. Blair Morris will. I am astonished that they are not able to give more positive information. They seem to be willing, however, to do so. When Democrats are asked in regard to it they laugh at them, because they seem certain that Mr. Cleveland will not permit himself to be circumvented by anybody.

THE RESIGNATION OF A SENATOR.

Judge Carter, of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, is about to resign, and I hear that Senator Conger, of Michigan, will resign and take his place. Senator Conger was the cause objector in the House before he was elected to the Senate. He did better in the former body than he has done since his transfer to higher honors. The fact is that there are a good many men who are efficient in the House

who fall when they go to the Senate. For example, Mr. Hale, of Maine, was a better every-day leader in the House than Garfield, who was best on parade occasions; but he has hardly come up to expectations in the Senate. Then Mr. Blaine was a "great commander" in the popular branch of Congress, but he could not compete with Eaton, of Connecticut, in a debate involving constitutional law. This was noticeable on a memorable night. There are a number of senators on both sides who would make great leaders in the House.

THE ARMY BILL.

was before the House this afternoon. It appropriates the usual amount to support "the boys in blue." By the way, the interest on the part of those who have served in the United States army is increasing in favor of the proposed Confederate Soldiers' Home. I hear that the Grand Army of the Republic organization here will ask for the use of the inauguration hall-room for the entertainment on the night of the 30th of March in aid of this institution.

BRIEF NEWS ITEMS.

The Secretary of the Navy has received information that there are no filibusters at Key West.

Mr. Gaylord says the Nicaraguan treaty ought not to be ratified just before the coming in of a new Administration.

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs commenced to-day an investigation of the Oklahoma-lands question, and reached no conclusion. The question is whether the Indians will relinquish their claims, and upon what terms.

Lieutenant-Commander Samuel Baker has been made a commander in the navy.

Government receipts to-day: Internal revenue, \$131,066; customs, \$585,751.

The investigation of the Indian leases will go on through the summer.

Representative Libbey and General B. F. Butler were among the visitors at the White House to-day.

The fact that the President nominated William M. Burwell for naval officer of customs at the port of New Orleans to-day recalled to Virginia reminiscences of the past. He represented Bedford county in the Legislature, and was one of the best talkers in the body.

XLVTH CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, January 27, 1885.

SENATE.

Mr. Maxey, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported favorably the bill to grant the right of way to the New Orleans and Mississippi-Valley Railroad Company through the public grounds at Baton Rouge, La. Passed on the calendar.

Mr. Harris, from the same committee, reported favorably a joint resolution authorizing the loan of flags and bunting to the District Committee on Inauguration Ceremonies. The joint resolution was read three times and passed.

Mr. Morrill, from the Committee on Finance, reported favorably, with amendment, House bill for the retirement and recoinage of the trade-dollar.

Mr. Morrill gave notice that he would call up the bill Monday next.

Mr. Harris said the bill was not a unanimous expression of the Committee on Finance, but of a majority of that committee.

The Senate passed the bill removing the political disabilities of W. H. Ward, of Virginia.

A resolution offered by Mr. Morgan was agreed to requesting the President, if not incompatible with public interest, to communicate to the Senate the correspondence between the United States Government and the Government of Liberia respecting arbitration between the latter country and Great Britain upon the boundary line between Liberia and Sierra Leone.

The Senate at 1 P. M. went into executive session.

At 4:08 P. M. the doors were considered open so far as to allow of the presentation by Mr. Hale of the conference report on the naval appropriation bill.

Mr. Hale said the bill had been stripped of all new legislation, and it was an amended appropriation bill, under which the conduct of the Navy Department, its course of action, and the legislation under which it existed, were not changed.

Mr. Peck said he was willing to surrender everything that the House desired because the naval appropriations had been exhausted, and three or four thousand persons, with families to support, whose employment was not by salary, but by day's wages, had been keeping idle since the 1st of January without any possibility of getting other employment. He hoped Congress would make some provision for those people in the deficiency bill or otherwise.

The conference report was adopted. Executive business was again resumed and continued till 5:35 P. M., when the Senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

Mr. White, of Kentucky, rising to correct the Journal, demanded that the joint resolution introduced by him yesterday abolishing the office of Commissioner of Internal Revenue be read.

The Speaker stated that the Journal was correct, and that it was not competent for the gentleman to demand the reading of the resolution.

Mr. White then complained that the text of the resolution was not printed in the Record, and the Speaker replied that he had informed the official reporter that under the rules the resolution should not be printed.

The District of Columbia appropriation bill was taken up and passed.

The morning hour having been dispensed with, Mr. White, of Kentucky, rising to a question of privilege, offered a resolution declaring that it is unjust to the official reporters of the House for the Speaker to be allowed to revise their notes in accordance with his views of rules or propriety.

Exception was promptly taken to Mr. White's resolution and his remarks upon it, and it was decided that he had raised no question of privilege; but in the course of the debate he gained his object, which was to secure the insertion in the Record of a joint resolution offered by him yesterday declaring that the Secretary of the Treasury and Commissioner of Internal Revenue had violated the laws, and providing for the abolition of the office of Internal Revenue Commissioner and the entire internal-revenue system. He made his remarks a part of his remarks to-day.

The Speaker had instructed the reporters that as the resolutions had been offered only for reference, they did not properly form a part of the record.

Mr. White was several times hissed and called to order, and at other times he created a good deal of amusement.

The House then at 1:25 went into Committee of the Whole—Mr. Mills, of Texas, in the chair—on the army appropriation bill. After brief general debate, the bill was read by paragraphs for amendments.

When the paragraph for the pay of the army was reached Mr. McComas, of Maryland, offered an amendment authorizing the retirement of General

Grant, (though not specifically naming him, with the rank and full pay) General. It was ruled out on a point of order raised by Mr. Forney, of Alabama, who has charge of the bill.

Mr. Sumner, of California, offered an amendment providing that the cost of telegrams on official business received and sent by the officers of the army shall not exceed the amount paid by the Government under contract for telegrams of a similar length sent to and from the signal-service stations. Adopted.

An amendment was adopted giving courts-martial the right to sit at such times as they may see fit.

The committee then rose and reported the bill to the House, and it was passed. Mr. Hunt, of New York, moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole to consider the revenue bills, his object being to call up the bill to carry into effect the convention between the United States and Mexico signed on the 20th of January, 1883. It was lost—60 to 56.

ADJOURNED.

DYNAMITE.

Discussion of the Late Explosions—Committee for Cunningham.

[By cable to the Dispatch.]

LONDON, January 27.—The Times, in its leading editorial to-day, says: "Englishmen reading the speech of Mr. Parnell at Milltown, yesterday, will not discover even a shadow of the monstrous and inhuman outrages of Saturday."

The speech, the Times says, was confined to state denunciations of English landlordism and Dublin Castle, yet Mr. Parnell must have been aware of what was done by the other and perhaps rival laborers in the sacred cause of Ireland's independence at Westminster and the Tower.

Several of the morning papers find it necessary to publish notices to their readers stating that they have received hundreds of letters regarding the explosions which they have been unable to publish for want of space. Many of the more characteristic or important letters are published, however, and they occupy several columns in each paper.

Most of the letters urge retaliation against all Irishmen, and some of the plans proposed for their punishment are as ingenious as they are absurd.

Several Irish workmen complain that they were discharged from employment on Monday morning for no other reason than that they were Irish, and that, in many mills, foundries, and other places, the Irish are being driven out.

LONDON, January 27.—Solicitor Quilman, of this city, has been engaged to defend Cunningham, now under arrest for complicity in last Saturday's explosions in London. An ample fund of money has been placed at the solicitor's disposal.

Dynamite Damage.

LONDON, January 27.—Colonel Macdonald and his colleagues are unanimous in the conclusion that the structural damage to both the House of Commons and Westminster Hall is of only slight importance.

The force of the explosion in the House of Commons was estimated at \$5,000.

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Baumgartner, the night marshal, who shot one of them through the body, killing him instantly. One of the burglars then shot Baumgartner in the back with a revolver. His recovery is doubtful. The burglars then stole a horse and sleigh and escaped, leaving their dead comrade behind.

The Illinois Legislative Situation.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., January 27.—After a brief session this afternoon the Assembly adjourned till to-morrow without taking a vote upon the permanent speakership, owing to the absence of a number of Democratic members.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL., January 27.—A dispatch received here last evening states that Senator Stricker (Democrat), of Carrollton, was stricken with paralysis, and is in a precarious condition. He has been in infirm health for some time and threatened with the disorder which has at last come upon him.

It is believed by those who are advised of his situation that he will not be able to return to the Legislature. This report has occasioned a great deal of concern here on the part of politicians.

The interest of his personal friends in his welfare is quite overshadowed by the discussion that is going on as to the result of the senatorial question must assume in the event either of his death or continued absence. Democrats are already planning as to how they shall proceed in the event of their losing his vote on the speakership. In addition to the news about the unfortunate senator, word has been received that Mr. Choiser, of Saline, is sick and will not be here before Wednesday night. This, of course, means no permanent organization of the House before Thursday, unless the other Republican join Stitt in voting for Haines.

The Oregon Senators.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

PORTLAND, OREGON, January 27.—The Democratic members of the Legislature held a caucus late last night and passed a resolution to vote solidly for some Democrat for United States senator. One ballot was taken to-day and resulted: James H. Slater (Democrat), 35; The Republican votes were as follows: Solomon Hirsch, of Portland, 13; W. C. Johnson, of Oregon City, 8; R. B. Boise, of Salem, 5; M. C. George, of Portland, 5; W. D. Hare, of Washington county, 4; Henry Farling, of Portland, 3; George H. Williams, of Portland, 2—the remainder scattering. Forty-six votes are required to indicate the above full strength of any one candidate, but it is expected that the balloting to-morrow will develop this.

Arkansas Senator.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., January 27.—The last ballot taken in the Legislature to-day for United States senator resulted as follows: Dunn, 42; Berry, 39; Jones, 36; Duval, 4; Rose, 1.

Voting for Senator in Wisconsin.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

MADISON, WIS., January 27.—The Senate and Assembly took separate ballots to-day for United States senator. In the Senate Spooner received 18 and Brager 12 votes. In the Assembly Spooner received 58 and Brager 30.

Ingalls Ahead.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

TOPEKA, KS., January 27.—The vote in the Senate to-day for United States senator was: Glick, 1 J. Ingalls, 39; George W. Gluck, 1 J. Ingalls, 39; Ingalls, 106; Glick, 3 C. W. Blair, 4.

Naval Appropriations.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 27.—The conference upon the temporary naval appropriation bill making provision for the Navy Department for the last half of the current fiscal year reached an agreement to-day. The bill appropriates \$6,120,000 for the half year. The provision of the House bill prohibiting the repairs of wooden ships, or of the engines and machinery of wooden ships, beyond what may be accomplished at an expenditure of 30 per centum of the estimated cost of new ships and machinery, has been amended by limiting the expenses of such repairs to 20 per centum of the cost of new ships or machinery.

Railway Train Delayed by Snow.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

CHICAGO, January 27.—The number of trains overdue and not heard from of the post-office was greater this morning than on any day since the beginning of the present season of intense cold and heavy snow-falls. From the few reports received it was learned that the snow is drifting badly on nearly all the main lines of railroads. Mails still out are of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific, and Chicago, Lafayette and Cincinnati, Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, Chicago and Louisville, Pittsburgh, Buffalo and Chicago (Limited), Buffalo and Chicago, and Port Huron and Chicago.

Fire in a Lunatic Asylum.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

INDIANAPOLIS, January 27.—A fire at the Indiana Hospital for the Insane was got under control after destroying the engine-room and laundry, and the bakery, and some smaller apartments located in a rear building connected with the main structure by a large three-story building containing the kitchen, sleeping-rooms for employees, the chapel of the institution, finished only last spring, and the dry-house. The loss is estimated at \$75,000. No insurance. There was no panic among the 1,700 patients, most of whom watched the fire, and no one was injured.

Morocco-Factory Burned.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

NEW YORK, January 27.—This afternoon the Morocco-factory of G. F. Leonard, at 11 and 13 Schenck street, Brooklyn, took fire and was totally destroyed. The loss will reach \$100,000. Fifty employees were at dinner in the building at the time, but all escaped. The engineer saved his life by jumping out of a window. The conflagration is supposed to have been caused by some skins soaked in naphtha, which exploded and set fire to the building.

The Nicaraguan Treaty.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

WASHINGTON, January 27.—In the executive session to-day Senator Bayard continued and concluded his speech against the Nicaraguan treaty; after which a running debate of an hour took place. Up to this time there have been no speeches in direct opposition to the treaty, the chief issues in the debate being the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and the advisability of immediate action upon the Nicaraguan treaty.

Suicide.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

MACON, GA., January 27.—Thomas Spalding, aged thirty-five years, laid down on the railroad track in this city last night and was run over and instantly killed by a switch-engine.

Attempted Post-Office Robbery.

[By telegraph to the Dispatch.]

FORT WAYNE, IND., January 27.—At 4 o'clock to-day four unknown men broke into the post-office at Huntington, Ind., for the purpose of robbing it. They were confronted by Major

ALL OVER THE STATE.

PETERSBURG AND VICINITY.

Prospective Dismissal—Removal of an Alleged Embroider.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

PETERSBURG, January 27, 1885.

It is stated that should Judge Mann decide against the State and other judgment creditors in the suit testing the validity of the assignment made by the directors of the Planters and Mechanics Bank, and direct that the funds in hand be distributed equally to the creditors under that assignment, the trustees will be able to pay a dividend of 23 per cent. at once. It is furthermore understood, should the deed stand and no priorities be allowed, that the bank will certainly be able to pay 52 per cent., and probably more.

To-morrow has been fixed as the day for the trial of the remaining criminal prosecutions in connection with several of the directors for conspiracy. Among the counsel for the defence outside of Petersburg are Messrs. Pegram & Strifflinger, of Richmond, and Hon. Phil W. McKim, of Farmville.

It is learned that the musical choruses of Norfolk and Lynchburg have accepted the invitation to take part in the festival to take place here during the last week in May. Invitations have been sent to every church society in Virginia and North Carolina to participate in the festival. The Petersburg Association has a splendidly-drilled chorus of nearly 100 voices.

Information from Henderson, N. C., states that E. N. Maddera, one of the parties recently arrested in this city and sent out there on the charge of embezzling the funds of the Wheeler & Wilson Sewing-Machine Company, escaped from custody a night or two ago, and has not since been apprehended.

The changes in the railroad system between Richmond and Wilmington, N. C., will be completed by the early part of next month, when trains will be run through between these points under one conductor, instead of under three, as at present. ROBIN ADAMS.

TAZEVELL COUNTY.

Increased Output of Coal—Round Mount and Other Mines.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

TAZEVELL C. H., Jan. 25, 1885. Seven hundred miners are on the payrolls of the Southwest Virginia Improvement Company, and the output of coal and coke is larger than ever. Owing to the precaution that has been taken there appears to be no longer any apprehension of an explosion in the mines. There is some talk of a pool being established between the company operating at Pocahontas and the various interests on the new branch or the Flat-Top companies.

It is reported here to-day that Captain W. E. Perry has sold a half interest in his famous Round-Mountain property to Captain Harman Newberry, of Bland. This survey, comprising some thirty thousand acres, is considered the richest iron property in the State, and has out of several thousand acres of splendid white pine timber—probably the only extensive body of that wood in the State, or perhaps the South. Coal also abounds on the property, and copper appears in the immediate vicinity.

The whole tract was sold three years ago to Mr. Frazier, of Boston, who made a payment of \$16,000 on it. In consequence, however, of his death, and the collapse of the Richmond and Southern railway scheme, the property reverted, together with the advanced payment, to the original owner.

We have had no snow yet of any consequence, and the constantly recurring changes from extreme cold to moderate weather have destroyed the wheat crops beyond probable recovery.

The late Mr. Stras, although extremely reticent about his progenitors, descended from a prominent German family. His father came to this country in consequence of political complications at home.

Another batch of our people will start to New Orleans next week. On their return they will make a hurried tour of Florida, with a view, perhaps, of establishing winter homes in that delightful climate.

Democrats here are rejoiced over the reelection of Virginia's honorary member of the Senate, Governor Vance, and hope that the fact of the suggestion coming from a Mahone-riden county will not prevent leading Virginians from conferring upon him some suitable testimonial in recognition of his gallant championship.

There are no new cases of diphtheria in our immediate vicinity; in fact, there is less sickness of any kind than usual.

DANVILLE.

Sudden Death—Land Sale—Baptist Terms.

[Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.]

JANUARY 27, 1885.

Dr. John R. Cabell, Jr., of Sandy River, in this county, son of Dr. Roy Cabell, and nephew of Hon. George C. Cabell, died quite suddenly on the 22d instant. He had been in good health for some time, and on that day rode his horse to water, and at the watering-place fell off and died before any assistance could be rendered him. It is supposed he suffered from heart-disease.

Dr. Cabell was about twenty-two years of age, had attended a Baltimore school, and had been engaged in practice about four years.

Major Sutherland has bought at sale under deed of trust the tract of land sold by him to Mr. C. C. Tinsley lying on Cain creek, in this county, and measuring about 498 acres, for \$25,000—about \$10.57 per acre.

At a meeting of the Baptist church last night Mr. John G. Miller, Jr., was elected treasurer in place of Mr. W. W. Waddill, who that evening had tendered his resignation and insisted on being given Mr. Waddill for long and faithful service.

The total amount paid out to date for the new building and lot was reported at \$31,799.38, and the amount from the old building and parsonage property was reported at \$7,310.29. The amount paid for the new parsonage was \$500. And the amount raised recently